



## OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE

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### For Immediate Release

April 15, 2022, 5:45 a.m. (ChST)

### **Hazardous Surf and Seas in Effect for the Marianas; Inexperienced Swimmers Advised to Stay Out of the Water**

The National Weather Service (NWS) Guam Weather Forecast Office has issued a marine weather statement for the coastal waters of Guam and Rota. A line of heavy showers, capable of producing gusts to around 30 knots, were located 30 nautical miles west of Agat and moving northeast at 15 knots.

Mariners can expect wind gusts to around 30 knots, locally higher waves, visibilities down to one nautical mile, and possible lightning strikes. Boaters should seek safe harbor until this passes.

The following NWS advisories remain in effect:

A **high surf advisory** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 a.m. Saturday. Large breaking waves of 9 to 11 feet are expected along west facing reefs. Dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion are also expected. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions.

A **high risk of rip currents** remains in effect for Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan through tonight. Dangerous rip currents are expected along west facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from the shore into deeper water. If caught in a rip current, do not swim against the current. Swim in a direction following the shoreline, face the shore and call or wave for help.

A **small craft advisory** remains in effect for the coastal waters of Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6 p.m. this evening. Seas of 7 to 10 feet are expected. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in hazardous conditions.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) remind the community to avoid hazardous sea and surf, especially west facing reefs and beaches. Heed the advice of lifeguards, beach patrol flags, and signs.

Visit the following links for the latest advisory information:

- NWS Website: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>
- NWS Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWSGuam/>
- GHS/OCD Website: <https://ghs.guam.gov/>
- GHS/OCD Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GHSOCD/>

For more information, contact GHS/OCD Public Information Officer Jenna G. Blas at (671) 489-2540 or via email at [jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov](mailto:jenna.g.blas@ghs.guam.gov).

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